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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part V)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Basheer F. ZOUBI (Jordan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 95, sub-items (a), (d) and (e) (see A/50/617, para. 3). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 37th, 39th and 42nd meetings, on 17 and 27 November and on 8 December 1995. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/50/SR.37, 39 and 42).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/50/L.25 and A/C.2/50/L.68

2. At the 37th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled, "Science and technology for development" (A/C.2/50/L.25), which read:

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/50/617 and addenda.

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"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the continuing validity of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, 1/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, endorsed in General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979 and subsequently reaffirmed in Assembly resolution 44/14 A of 26 October 1989,

"Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 2/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 3/ the Cartagena Commitment, 4/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, the recommendations and decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly those contained in Agenda 21, 5/ General Assembly resolutions 46/165 of 19 December 1991 and 48/179 of 21 December 1993, and other resolutions and decisions adopted by organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerning science and technology for development,

"Bearing in mind the vital contribution of science and technology, including new and emerging technologies, to the promotion of economic growth and development, particularly in developing countries, and stressing the importance of monitoring new developments in science and technology and their implications for society, on production, employment and international competitiveness, especially for developing countries,

"Recognizing the importance for developing countries of having access to science and technology so as to enhance their productivity and competitiveness in the world market, and stressing the need to promote, facilitate and finance access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

2/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

3/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

4/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

5/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

preferential terms, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries,

"Stressing the need to further promote endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries so as to enable them to participate in, benefit from and contribute to the rapid advances in science and technology,

"Recognizing that information technologies are important requisites for planning, development and decision-making in science and technology, and recognizing also their far-reaching implications for society,

"Reaffirming that the United Nations should play a central role in the promotion of cooperation in science and technology, and in the enhancement of support and assistance to developing countries in their efforts to achieve the objectives set forth by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in this regard,

"Commending the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in promoting the developing countries' endogenous capacity in science and technology, and recognizing its unique role as a global forum for the examination of science and technology questions, for the improvement of the understanding of science and technology policies for development and for the formulation of recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters within the United Nations system, all in relation to development,

"Stressing the need to further strengthen, within the context of the forthcoming ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the role of the Conference in science and technology,

"Expressing concern over the continued inadequacy of resources devoted to fostering science and technology for development,

"Recognizing the need for Governments, and regional and international bodies to take measures to ensure women better access to and participation in scientific and technological areas, especially those areas where they are not represented or are underrepresented,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of programme 17, science and technology for development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 6/

"1. Endorses the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995 on the basis

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6/ A/50/649.

of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its second session; 7/

"2. Reaffirms that capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries should remain a priority issue in the United Nations agenda, and urges that international cooperation efforts be intensified and strengthened towards developing countries' endogenous capacity-building in science and technology, including their capacity to utilize scientific and technological developments from abroad as well as to modify and adapt them to suit local conditions;

"3. Calls upon the international community, particularly developed countries and international organizations, to fulfil all their commitments as affirmed in chapter 34 of Agenda 21, 5/ in particular on the effective access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including new and emerging technologies and publicly owned technologies, to developing countries on concessional and preferential terms, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries, so as to enable those developing countries to meet their development-related challenges;

"4. Stresses the urgent need to strengthen the vital role of the United Nations in the field of science and technology, particularly through effective policy guidance and better coordination, including in international cooperation in technology assessment, monitoring and forecasting;

"5. Calls upon United Nations organizations, funds and programmes to work in a coordinated manner to develop a catalogue of proved technologies to enable effective technology choice, by developing countries, of state-of-the-art technologies;

"6. Calls upon the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development to continue to interact effectively, through the Economic and Social Council, in carrying out their respective mandates;

"7. Takes note of the developments at the Consultative Meeting on a Coalition of Resources for Science and Technology for Development and welcomes the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development should provide a forum for exchanging views and interaction among partners of different networks and coordination schemes;

"8. Reaffirms the need for adequate financial resources on a continuous and assured basis to foster science and technology for development, in particular to promote endogenous capacity-building in developing countries in accordance with their priorities;

7/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 11 (E/1995/31).

"9. Notes with appreciation the measures taken by the Secretary-General in response to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 48/179 and invites him to continue to take all necessary measures, including to explore the possibility of organizing a more effective coalition of resources within the United Nations development system, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks and bilateral funding agencies to ensure the full implementation of programme 17, science and technology for development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and the activities planned for 1996-1997 in the field of science and technology for development, in accordance with specific mandates provided for in the relevant Assembly resolutions;

"10. Recognizes the importance of cooperation among developing countries in the field of science and technology, building on their complementarities, and the need of further advancing such cooperation through the establishment and/or the strengthening of national technology and information centres in developing countries and their networking on regional, subregional and interregional and global levels to promote technology research, development and dissemination among developing countries, and urges the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and programmes to provide continued and enhanced support, through technical assistance and financing for such efforts;

"11. Welcomes the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the decision of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to select information technologies as the main substantive theme of its work during the inter-sessional period 1995-1997 and to set up panels and/or working groups to analyse, and elaborate and make recommendations on issues pertaining to information technologies and their implications for development;

"12. Takes note of the decision of the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to consider ways and means for the formulation of a common vision regarding the future contribution of science and technology for development, taking advantage of the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held at Vienna in 1979;

"13. Stresses the important role that the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development should play in enhancing endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries, and calls on all countries in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Fund;

"14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At the 42nd meting, on 8 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Science and technology for development" (A/C.2/50/L.68), which he submitted on the basis of

informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.25, and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the words "as well as to modify and adapt" were replaced by the words "to adapt";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the words "objectives affirmed" were replaced by the words "objectives as reaffirmed";

(c) In operative paragraph 5, the words "vital role" were replaced by the words "important role";

(d) In operative paragraph 11, the word "welcomes" was deleted;

(e) In operative paragraph 14, the words "so that they would have a greater impact" were replaced by the words "for greater impact".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.68, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution I).

5. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Japan and the Philippines, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China (see A/C.2/50/SR.42).

6. In view of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.68, draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.25 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/50/L.38 and A/C.2/50/L.62

7. At the 39th meeting, on 27 November, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa" (A/C.2/50/L.38), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, 8/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development and subsequently endorsed and reaffirmed by the General Assembly,

"Reaffirming also its resolution 46/151, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, having as its priority objectives the accelerated transformation,

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8/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

integration, diversification and growth of the African economies, in order to strengthen them within the world economy,

"Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled 'United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa' 9/ which, inter alia, concludes that the response of organizations and agencies of the United Nations system in supporting the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development has not matched the expectations and needs of many developing countries and makes a number of recommendations aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa, and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on that report, 10/ each submitted to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in a note by the Secretary-General,

"Recognizing the crucial significance of science and technology, including the related information technologies for planning, development and decision-making in science and technology and the promotion of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in the process of growth and development,

"Recognizing also that the fundamental objective of science and technology to meet basic needs should be to create conditions that increase the ability of the poor to gain access to, comprehend and use knowledge and technology creatively in order to satisfy their basic needs,

"Noting the efforts being undertaken by African leaders within the Presidential Forum on the Management of Science and Technology for Development in Africa, 1995-2005,

"Taking note of the Cairo Agenda for Action, adopted by the Summit of the Heads of States and Governments on 28 June 1995,

"1. Notes with appreciation the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled 'United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa', 9/ and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon; 10/

"2. Requests the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development to update the eight operational guidelines adopted in 1983 in order to provide a more comprehensive conceptual framework for the development and transfer of technology;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General, in liaison with the relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, to recommend and implement policy reforms that are needed to further the progress of science

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9/ A/50/125-E/1995/19, annex.

10/ A/50/125/Add.1-E/1995/19/Add.1, annex.

and technology in Africa, indicating the estimated costs of such an undertaking and the possible sources of funding;

"4. Requests African Governments to continue to implement political and economic policy reforms aimed at creating a favourable domestic environment for enterprise and innovations without which rapid development is not possible;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that organizations of the United Nations system refine and adopt recommendations 1 through 5 contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit concerning institution-building functions, sustainability, the programme approach, technical back-stopping and chief technical advisers without prejudice to the views thereon of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and taking into account General Assembly resolution 47/199 and the outcome of the 1995 triennial policy review of operational activities for development within the United Nations system;

"6. Also requests the Secretary-General, within the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and its upcoming mid-term global review in 1996, to:

"(a) Initiate discussions at the highest level of the Administrative Committee on Coordination concerning the possibility of increased United Nations system policy and programmatic collaboration in support of science and technology capacity-building in Africa, especially in key areas identified in section III of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit;

"(b) Consider the feasibility and the timeliness of establishing a few pilot science and technology strategic institutions of national or subregional scope;

"(c) Undertake consultations within the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, on the possibility of convening a summit meeting on science and technology for development, with the substantive contribution of all the organizations of the United Nations system, to coincide with the Summit of the Organization of African Unity and with the participation of the donor community;

"7. Further requests the Secretary-General to report, under the appropriate agenda item, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, on the implementation of the present resolution."

8. At the 42nd meeting, on 8 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa" (A/C.2/50/L.62), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.38.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.62 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution II).

10. In view of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.62, draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.38 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, 11/ and recalling the relevant paragraphs of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 12/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 13/ the Cartagena Commitment, 14/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, the relevant recommendations and decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly those contained in Agenda 21, 15/ and the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerning science and technology for development,

Bearing in mind the vital contribution of science and technology, including new and emerging technologies, to the promotion of economic growth and development, particularly in developing countries, and stressing the importance of monitoring new developments in science and technology and their implications

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11/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

12/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

13/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

14/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

15/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

for society, on production, employment and international competitiveness, especially for developing countries,

Recognizing the importance for developing countries of having access to science and technology so as to enhance their productivity and competitiveness in the world market, and stressing the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries,

Stressing the primary responsibility of all countries for their own science and technology policies, and the need to further promote endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries so as to enable them to participate in, benefit from and contribute to the rapid advances in science and technology,

Recognizing that information technologies are important requisites for planning, development and decision-making in science and technology, and recognizing also their far-reaching implications for society,

Recognizing the importance of developing countries' own efforts in the field of science and technology for development,

Reaffirming that the United Nations should play an important role in the promotion of cooperation in science and technology, and in the enhancement of support and assistance to developing countries in their efforts to achieve the objectives set forth by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in this regard,

Recognizing the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in promoting the developing countries' endogenous capacity in science and technology, and recognizing its unique function as a global forum for the examination of science and technology questions, for the improvement of the understanding of science and technology policies for development and for the formulation of recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters within the United Nations system, all in relation to development,

Recognizing the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in science and technology for development, as reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 48/179 of 21 December 1993,

Recognizing the need for adequate resources to be devoted to fostering science and technology for development,

Recognizing the special needs and requirements of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, especially those in Africa,

Also recognizing the relevant problems of countries with economies in transition in the sphere of the transformation and development of their scientific and technological potentials,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of programme 17, Science and technology for development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 16/

1. Reaffirms the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995 on the basis of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its second session; 17/

2. Reaffirms that capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries should remain a priority issue in the United Nations agenda, and urges that international cooperation efforts be intensified and strengthened towards developing countries' endogenous capacity-building in science and technology, including their capacity to utilize scientific and technological developments from abroad and to adapt them to suit local conditions;

3. Calls upon the international community to meet all the objectives as reaffirmed in chapter 34 of Agenda 21, 15/ in particular those dealing with effective access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including new and emerging technologies and publicly owned technologies, to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries, so as to contribute to enabling those developing countries to meet their development-related challenges;

4. Stresses that it is important for developing countries to adopt and implement their own science and technology policies that support the national effort to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the light of their respective national conditions, needs, priorities and objectives;

5. Stresses the need to strengthen the important role of the United Nations in the field of science and technology, particularly through effective policy guidance and better coordination, including in international cooperation in technology assessment, monitoring and forecasting;

6. Recognizes the role of the private sector in science and technology for development, in particular in the transfer and development of science and technology capabilities;

7. Also recognizes the role of Governments in science and technology for development, in particular in providing appropriate regulatory frameworks and incentives for the development of science and technology capabilities;

16/ A/50/649.

17/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 11 (E/1995/31).

8. Requests the relevant organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations, in the spirit of coordination that should prevail in the activities of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology for development, to work in a coordinated manner to develop a catalogue of proved technologies that will enable developing countries to make effective choices from among state-of-the-art technologies;

9. Calls upon the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development to interact more effectively, through the Economic and Social Council, in carrying out their respective mandates;

10. Calls upon the supporting secretariats of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development to improve their interaction;

11. Takes note of the developments at the Consultative Meeting on a Coalition of Resources for Science and Technology for Development and the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development provide a forum for exchanging views and interaction among partners of different networks and coordination schemes;

12. Reaffirms the need for adequate financial resources on a continuous and assured basis to foster science and technology for development, in particular to promote endogenous capacity-building in developing countries in accordance with their priorities;

13. Notes with appreciation the measures taken by the Secretary-General in response to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 48/179 and invites him to continue to take all necessary measures, including to explore the possibility of organizing a more effective coalition of resources within the United Nations development system, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks and bilateral funding agencies to ensure the full implementation of programme 17, Science and technology for development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 and the activities planned for 1996-1997 in the field of science and technology for development, in accordance with specific mandates provided for in the relevant Assembly resolutions;

14. Takes note that enhanced cooperation could help focus the activities of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology for development for greater impact;

15. Recognizes the importance of cooperation among developing countries in the field of science and technology, building on their complementarities, and the need for further advancing such cooperation through the establishment and/or the strengthening of national technology and information centres in developing countries and their networking on regional, subregional, interregional and global levels to promote technology research, training and dissemination as well as joint projects in developing countries, and urges the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and programmes to provide continued and enhanced support, through technical assistance and financing for such efforts;

16. Requests the relevant organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to promote the development of effective and mutually beneficial technological cooperation between countries with economies in transition and all other countries, including in the area of new and emerging technologies;

17. Notes the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the decision of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to select information technologies as the main substantive theme of its work during the inter-sessional period 1995-1997 and to set up panels and/or working groups to analyse, and elaborate and make recommendations on issues pertaining to information technologies and their implications for development;

18. Takes note of the decision of the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to consider ways and means for the formulation of a common vision regarding the future contribution of science and technology for development, taking advantage of the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held at Vienna in 1979;

19. Stresses the potentially important role that the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development should play in enhancing endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries, and calls on all countries in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Fund;

20. Reaffirms the need for Governments and regional and international bodies to take measures to ensure that women have equal access to and equal opportunity to participate in scientific and technological areas, especially in areas where they are not represented or are underrepresented;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, 18/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development and subsequently endorsed and reaffirmed by the General Assembly,

Reaffirming also its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in

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18/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

the 1990s, having as its priority objectives the accelerated transformation, integration, diversification and growth of the African economies, in order to strengthen them within the world economy,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa", 19/ and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the crucial significance of science and technology, including the related information technologies for planning, development and decision-making in science and technology and the promotion of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in the process of growth and development,

Recognizing also that the fundamental objective of science and technology to meet basic needs should be to create conditions that increase the ability of people living in poverty to gain access to, fully understand, integrate, use and generate knowledge and technology creatively in order to satisfy their basic needs,

Stressing the importance of South-South cooperation in the promotion of science and technology in Africa in the context of modalities for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, among other things,

Noting the efforts being undertaken by African leaders within the Presidential Forum on the Management of Science and Technology for Development in Africa, 1995-2005,

Taking note of the Cairo Agenda for Action, adopted on 28 June 1995 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first ordinary session,

1. Takes note of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa", 19/ and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon; 20/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to promote and implement activities in support of science and technology in Africa in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, to make concrete proposals on activities, in the context of the mid-term review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, to be carried out in 1996, aimed at strengthening United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa, taking into account the views and recommendations contained in the reports mentioned above and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

19/ A/50/125-E/1995/19, annex.

20/ A/50/125/Add.1-E/1995/19/Add.1, annex.